I

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SHILDON

FOR THE YEAR

1970

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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SHILDON

1970

Chairman of the Council: Councillor W. Jackson.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor F. Pickering.

Chairman of the Health Committee: Councillor R. Moyle

Chairman of the Housing Committee:
Councillor W. Edwards, C.C.

Councillors:

E. M. Amos
Mrs. M. Aston, J.P.
D. Beddingfield
T. Bennett
W. L. Carnan
P. Douthwaite
J. Forster
H. Fox
R. A. Goad
R. Hodgson
Mrs. J. V. Howard
K. Newby
W. Nunn
B. Stephens
J. Thompson
Mrs. L. L. Trotter, J.P.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority

Medical Officer of Health (part-time):
E. M. Osborne, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.C.H., D.R.C.O.G. Also Medical Officer of Health to the Urban District Council of Bishop Auckland, the Rural District Council of Darlington and Principal Senior Medical Officer to Durham County Council.

Public Health Inspector:
K. Robson

Deputy Public Health Inspector:
G. R. Sewell

Pupil Public Health Inspector:
A. Horner

Clerical Assistant:
S. Thompson

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1970

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of your district for 1970.

After seven years of progressively falling population, it is a pleasant change to report an increase this year of 110 to 13,770.

The number of births fell by 14 giving a standardised rate of 14 compared with 16 for England and Wales. It was very disappointing to find that 13% of the live births were illegitimate compared with 8% for the country as a whole.

The number of deaths fell by 18 to 156 giving a standardised rate of 13.8 compared with 11.7 for the whole country. 56 of these were aged 75 and over. There were no still births at all this year whilst the number of infant deaths decreased to 2 giving an infantile mortality rate of 11 compared with 18 in the country as a whole. One of these children died at 8 hours from prematurity and the other at 8 weeks from inhalation of vomit.

Once again there were no maternal deaths.

The number of deaths from cancer of all parts of the body decreased by 2 to 34. Cancer of the bronchus decreased in men by 3 to 7, but increased in women by 3 to 5.

Deaths due to ischaemic heart disease decreased by 5 to 40.

There were 2 deaths from diabetes, both in persons over 75 years.

Pneumonia caused 5 deaths, a decrease of 3, and deaths from bronchitis were down by 4 to 12.

This year there were 6 accidental deaths and one suicide.

During the year 4 new cases of tuberculosis were notified, 3 males and 1 female, an increase of 3 on last year.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited the area once during the year, a total of 586 persons being Xrayed. Of the 6 cases referred to the Chest Clinic, 2 were found to be suffering from tuberculosis.

During the year, a Multiple Screening Clinic was held at the Town Hall, Bishop Auckland, for residents of Shildon and Bishop Auckland over 15 years of age. A total of 1,081 persons attended (313 men and 768 women), 344 were residents of Shildon (90 men and 254 women). Tests were carried out for anaemia, vision, diabetes and chest Xray, and in addition, a cervical cytology test was carried out on the women. A table of the results appears in the report. This clinic proved very popular and in view of the number of defects discovered, especially in vision, it appears to have been well worth while.

The number of notifications of infectious disease showed an increase this year to 153, mainly due to the increased number of measles cases (116 compared with 23 last year). This is very disappointing in view of the number of measles vaccinations which were carried out during the year, and we can only hope that next year's figures will improve when progressively more mothers can be persuaded to have their children vaccinated.

The number of cases of scarlet fever, however, fell from 46 to 14, the maximum numbers again occurring in the 5-10 year old group.

There were 7 cases of infective jaundice, compared with 2 last year, but as this is the first full year for notifications of this disease we cannot yet make any comparisons.

Besides vaccination against smallpox, poliomyelitis and measles, and immunisation against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough carried out in the district during the year, rubella vaccination was offered to girls in their fourteenth year, and 89 were vaccinated. It is hoped that a wider age range of girls will be offered vaccination next year.

Heaf testing of school entrants continues for diagnostic purposes for Tuberculosis, and is repeated again on entry to secondary school when B.C.G. vaccination is given as required.

There was a slight reduction in the number of vaccinations against influenza given to council staff and workmen this year, 77 being given compared with 83 last year.

204 households were assisted by the provision of home helps during the year, an increase of 7 on 1969.

The Meals on Wheels service still supplies 24 dinners twice a week for which we are very grateful to the Women's Royal Voluntary Service for their services. At the end of the year there was a waiting list of 15. The Meals from Neighbours service acts as a standby in case of emergency.

Luncheon Clubs continue to be held for the elderly at the Old Shildon Club and the New Shildon Club providing 20 meals at each centre per week.

The Red Cross continue to administer the Chiropody clinic most efficiently. A County Chiropodist is employed here and during the year a total of 146, three times weekly sessions was held, 330 pensioners and one physically handicapped persons receiving a total of 1,401 treatments.

70 houses were built by the Council with State Assistance, 205 by the Newton Aycliffe Development Corporation and 20 by private persons making a total of 295 for the year.

The chief housing problem at the moment appears to be the provision of bungalow accommodation for the elderly. Once our old people are rehoused in bungalows they immediately get a new lease of life and I feel that the sooner we can go ahead with another Warden Bungalow Scheme the better.

The Municipalisation of Dustbins and the conversion to the Paper Sack Collection System has now been completed and is working well.

The Sewage Disposal Works continue to be used, but progress is being made with regard to the discharge of the town's sewage to the Aycliffe Disposal Works and the connection sewer should be completed in about 12 months.

Finally, I should like to thank the Council for their co-operation, my staff for their loyal services and members of all voluntary organisations for their willing hard work.

VITAL STATISTICS

POPULATION

The Registrar General's figures for the Area at Mid 1970, show the resident population as 13,770, this being an increase of 110 in comparison with the previous year. The Comparability Factors for Shildon are:—

Births	1.03
Deaths	1.22

Live Births

	Male	Female		
Number	97	90	=	187
Rate per 1,000 population				14.0 Standard.

Illegitimate Live Births (% of total Live Births):

	Male	Female		
Number	14	10	=	24
% of Total Live Births		13		

Still Births:

	Male	Female		
Number	Nil	Nil	=	Nil

Infant Mortality Rates (deaths under one year):

Male	Female	Total
2	—	2

Total Infant Deaths:

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births: 11

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births: 6

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births; 42

Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 live births: 5

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births): 5

Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births): 5.

Maternal Mortality (including abortion):

Number of Deaths: Nil

Death Rate:

Shildon Area: (Crude) ...	11.3 per 1,000 population	
(Standardised)	13.8 ,, ,,	
England and Wales	11.7 ,, ,,	
Deaths in Shildon Area, as per Returns to the Medical Officer of Health		77
Deaths of Shildon Residents outside the area ...		79

Infantile Mortality Rate:

The number of Deaths of children under the age of one year is 2, representing an Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births of 11. Of these, 1 occurred in Shildon.

The Infantile Mortality figure for England and Wales is 18.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

	Death Rate per 1,000 pop'n (Crude)	Inf. Mort. Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	Birth Rate per 1,000 pop'n (Crude)
Country Average (England & Wales) ...	11.7	18	13	16
Shildon	11.3	11	—	13.6

Births in excess of Deaths:

1951	52	1961	101
1952	58	1962	104
1953	64	1963	58
1954	61	1964	74
1955	27	1965	102
1956	71	1966	63
1957	50	1967	43
1958	98	1968	62
1959	74	1969	27
1960	34	1970	31

Population Changes:

1956	14,050
1957	13,960
1958	13,920
1959	13,910
1960	13,920
1961	14,070
1962	14,130
1963	14,020
1964	13,940
1965	13,910
1966	13,890
1967	13,820
1968	13,790
1969	13,660
1970	13,770

Age Groups of Deaths in Shildon:

Under 1 yr.	1–5	5–15	15–25	25–45	45–60	60–70	70–80	80–90	Over 90	Total
1	—	—	—	1	13	22	22	18	—	77

Age Groups of Deaths Outside the Area:

Under 1 yr.	1–5	5–15	15–25	25–45	45–60	60–70	70–80	80–90	Over 90	Total
1	—	—	1	2	16	23	21	12	3	79

Cause of Death	Male	Female
Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	3	2
Malignant Neoplasm—Intestine	3	2
Malignant Neoplasm—Lung, Bronchus	7	5
Malignant Neoplasm—Breast	—	3
Leukaemia	1	—
Other Malignant Neoplasms	6	2
Diabetes Mellitus	1	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	3
Hypertensive Disease	1	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	23	17
Other Forms of Heart Disease	1	4
Cerebrovascular Disease	17	15
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	3	—
Influenza	2	1
Pneumonia	4	1
Bronchitis and Emphysema	8	4
Asthma	—	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	—	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	—	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	—	1
Congenital Anomalies	—	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	1	—
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	—
All Other Accidents	3	2
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries...	—	1
Total all Causes ...	86	70

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Table of Cases as notified in the Whole District, set out in age groups (Civilians only)

Infectious Disease	Under 1 yr.	1–2	2–3	3–4	4–5	5–10	10–15	15–20	20–35	35–45	45–61	61 & over	At all ages
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	1	4	6	2	1	—	—	—	—	14
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	4	—	2	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Measles	8	20	26	17	23	17	3	1	1	—	—	—	116
Infective Jaundice	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	1	1	—	1	7
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TUBERCULOSIS:													
1. MALES:													
(a) Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
(b) Non Pulmonary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
2. FEMALES:													
(a) Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
(b) Non Pulmonary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	12	20	28	20	29	29	5	2	4	2	1	1	153

TUBERCULOSIS

The following cases remained on the Register at the end of the year:

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
Males	16	1	17
Females... ...	20	3	23
	36	4	40

The number of known Tuberculosis Cases in the District represents .29% of the population, a decrease of 72% over the previous year.

Two cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year.

MULTIPLE SCREENING CLINIC
(Bishop Auckland and Shildon)

Test	Total Number Carried out	Number requiring further investigation or treatment
Anaemia	1,065	21
Vision	698	273
Diabetes	1,070	23
Cervical Smear ...	501*	4
Chest Xray... ...	1,019	9

(* Women over 25 who had not been tested in the previous 2 years only.)

VACCINATION RETURNS FOR THE YEAR 1970

Immunisation against Diphtheria:—

213 No. — Primary Injections.
213 No. — Booster Injections.

Whooping Cough:—

156 No. — Primary Injections.
39 No. — Booster Injections.

Tetanus Injections:—

243 No. — Primary Injections.
223 No. — Booster Injections.

Smallpox Vaccinations:—

123 No. — Received Primary courses.
3 No. — Re-vaccination.

VACCINATION RETURNS FOR THE YEAR 1970—*continued*

Poliomyelitis Vaccination:—

167 No. — Received Primary injections.
145 No. — Received Booster injections.

Measles:—

252 No. — Received Primary Injections.

Rubella:—

89 girls received primary injections.

B.C.G. Vaccination:—

154 No. — Children were Heaf Tested.
24 No. — Children were Positive.
121 No. — Children were found to be Negative.
117 No. — Children were Vaccinated.

Reason for no vaccination: One had fainting fits. Three had rashes.

HOME HELP SERVICE

Number of cases receiving Home Help at 1.1.1970 ...	145
New cases received during year	59
Total number of cases provided with help during year ...	204
Cases terminated during the year	43
Cases receiving service at 31.12.1970	161

CHIROPODY SERVICE

Number of sessions from 1.1.1970—31.12.1970	146
Number of treatments	1,401
Number of aged persons treated	330
Number of physically handicapped persons	1

PARTICULARS OF DISTRICT

Area (in acres) including Eldon, Old Eldon, Middridge and Brusselton	4,862
No. of inhabited houses in the District of which 70 were constructed during the year, 133 Condemned/Closed and Demolition Orders served under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957, 11 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936. The tenants of such houses demolished being re-housed by this Council	4,951
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£1,245
Rateable Value	£307,327

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Refuse Collection:

Domestic, Shop and Trade Refuse is collected throughout the area by regular weekly collection provided by the Council. The disposal of the refuse is done by controlled tipping at Sunnydale Tip in a most satisfactory manner.

Drains and Sewerage:

The drains and sewers continue to work in a satisfactory manner.

Rodent Control:

Private businesses and dwelling houses were treated as and where necessary—a charge being made to properties other than dwelling house property, and complete sewer treatments were carried out during the year. A Rodent Operator is employed by the Council for the purpose of carrying out this work.

The public continue to report promptly to the Council Offices any infestation of rats and mice being found on their property.

No. of premises visited	No. of baits laid
250	672

The number of visits made during the year on Rat Infested premises during which treatment was carried out being ... 182

Water Supply:

(**a**) The water supply to the area has been satisfactory in quantity and the quality was maintained during the year.

(**b**) No contamination of the supply occurred in the Shildon U.D.

(**c**) The total number of bacteriological samples taken in the Shildon area during 1970 was 10.

(**d**) There are 4,882 dwelling houses supplied. There are no houses on stand pipes.

(**e**) Natural fluoride is present in the water from 0.15 to 0.65 p.p.m.

Summary of Notices and work done in the Public Health Inspector's Department during the Year ended 1970.

1. Houses erected in area:

	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority	70	—	70
(b) By any other Local Authority ...	205	—	205
(c) By private persons	—	20	20
	275	20	295

2. Closing and Demolition of Houses.

(a) Formal Action:

	No.
(i) No. of houses demolished during the year as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action	108
(ii) No. of houses Closed but not demolished as a result of formal action	14
(iii) No. of houses in Clearance Areas and individual unfit houses, demolition of which temporarily postponed	11
(iv) No. of houses in use as temporary accommodation	1

(b) Informal Action:

(i) No. of houses permanently discontinued as dwellings as a result of informal action and not included above	—

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA—*continued*

3. Reconditioning and Repair.

No. of houses made fit during year by procedure under Housing Acts (excluding temporary accommodation) or Public Health Acts:—

		No.
(a)	As a result of informal action	6
(b)	By owners as a result of statutory notice ...	1
(c)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	2

4.

(a) Water, Food and Drugs:

	No.
Samples of water taken for Analysis (water samples are taken by the Durham County Water Board)	10
No isolated samples were taken by this Council as this is the function of the Durham County Council	—
Seizures of unwholesome food (voluntarily surrendered)	315
Samples of Food and Drugs taken for Analysis or found to be adulterated	—
Number of cases of food adulteration reported to this Council	—

(b) Precautions against Infectious Diseases:

Lots of Infectious Bedding Stoved or Destroyed	—
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease ...	—

(c) General:

Number of new houses Erected during the year	70
Number of such houses Occupied during the year	70
Total number of Water Closets in the District ...	5,394
Total number of Ash-pit privies in District ...	14

MILK RETAILERS

There are in the District 5 Retail Purveyors who are supplying either Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk.

Regular samples are taken for testing by the Durham County Council Weights and Measures Department who have reported satisfactory results during the year.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Under the provisions of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, there are 2 slaughterhouses. The 2 slaughterhouses concerned are each attached to the retail shop for which they are used, and conform to the standards laid down under the provisions of the above Act, and have been duly licensed thereunder. All animals slaughtered have been subject to inspection which has amounted to 100%. A high standard of cleanliness has been maintained in the slaughterhouses throughout the period.

The slaughterhouses have also been inspected by the Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and have been found satisfactory.

The 2 slaughterhouses concerned are as follows:—

(1) J. N. Percival ... 25, Church Street, Shildon.

(2) J. Studham ... 49, Church Street, Shildon.

The total number of animals inspected during the year being:—

	Animals Slaughtered
Cattle	47
Sheep	77
Pigs	71

HOUSING

(a) The Council's Pre-War and Post-War Housing Programmes are summarised as follows:—

	No. Erected
1919 Act	124
1930-1935 Act:	
North Eastern Housing Association, Newcastle. (Let by this Council)	100

	No. Erected
Post-War Permanent Housing	1,226
Post-War Aged Persons Bungalows	248
Post-War Flats ... ... (30 available for Old Aged Persons)	62
Communal Centres	2
Warden's Flats	2

(b) **Re-Housing:**

During the year ended 31st December, 1970, 141 houses were let to the following groups, in accordance with the Council's allocation of houses Scheme:

	No.
Points	95
Individual Unfit Houses...	29
Key Workers	6
Eviction Cases	—
Medical Cases	11
	141

(c) The number of dwellings built by the Council during the year was 70, 10 houses and 4 flats at Auckland Terrace, 9 houses at College Street and 47 houses on the Jubilee Fields Estate.

The allocation of Council houses is made on the following grounds:

(1) Clearance.
(2) Points.

together with serious medical cases. Special provisions being made to allocate bungalows to old people within the town itself.

Persons requiring housing accommodation, should complete the Housing Application Form, obtainable at the Council Offices, for inclusion on the following year's Housing List.

The number of applicants remaining on the Housing and Bungalow List at 31st December, 1970, were as follows:—

Applications	Type of dwelling required
104	Two and Three bedroom houses.
146	Bungalows.

Housing Acts 1957 to 1959
(Standard and Improvement Grants).

The following is a summary of applications received under the provisions of the above Acts from January—31st December, 1970:—

(i)	No. of applications received	82
(ii)	No. of applications approved	63
(iii)	No. of applications rejected	—
(iv)	No. of applications withdrawn	9
(v)	No. of improvements completed	43

During the year 1969/1970, the Shildon Accident Prevention Society team reached the semi-final of the Durham Constabulary Cycling Competition. For the first time, a Cycling Attainment Test was held for children between the ages of 7 and 9 years and there were 34 passes.

During this period, 70 children were trained in cycling proficiency as follows:

(a)	First year.	49 No.
(b)	Second year.	15 No.
(c)	Third year.	1 No.
(d)	Fourth year.	2 No.
(e)	Fifth year.	2 No.
(f)	Sixth year.	—
(g)	Seventh year.	1 No.
		70 No.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Regular visits were paid to the factories in the area and, in general, conditions were found to be good.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

E. M. OSBORNE,

Medical Officer of Health,
Shildon Urban District Council.

SHAW & SONS LTD., SHAWAY HOUSE, LONDON, S.E.26.